

Church of God, The Eternal

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Announcement Letter

July 1987

Dear Brethren:

Warm and convivial greetings to all once again. We hope and pray you are well, happy, and greatly blessed of God.

Tempus fugit! Where does time go? It seems to melt right before our faces. In virtually no time we shall have once again rehearsed the whole plan and purpose of God—via the observance of His Holy Days. As human beings, we are fraught with mixed emotions. For those with close ties with their Father, in whom the Holy Spirit dominates, the Feast of Tabernacles cannot come too soon—annually. Yet, we are periodically frustrated with an ever-growing inability to accomplish all requirements which tenaciously insinuate themselves into our lives. But relationship to/with time is a kind of mental barometer indicating the vicissitudes of change of that nature with which we were born.

In a very real sense, one could wish for a rapid passage of time through these fateful years which lie immediately ahead of us. To do so, however, is to wish away some of the most exciting and startling times this world has ever seen. Who, for instance, wants to miss the spectacular second coming of Christ? All in all, God deems it best for us to concentrate our mental energies upon the things of the day—the immediate, relative to which we can do something constructive. In no way can we change tomorrow. Living today successfully is a sufficiently tall order.

Current Events

Economic instability is obvious. It is a disease affecting nearly every nation on the face of the earth. But, it is especially apparent in the United States. We have had a long history of reasonable stability. A history of confidence and aggressive determination. People were not fearful and totally bewildered. A people who had a strong confidence in constitutional liberties and rights. A people, for the most part, who are free from, and therefore have little knowledge of, national bickering, the ravages of war, and tyrannical oppression. We, the people of Israel, behave as though such national problems could never affect us. While we sleep, the insidious tentacles of "Mystery Babylon, the Great" are reaching into every component of the fabric of our society. Once the roots of this terminal cancer have insidiously spread, our only hope is outside intervention. That deliverance is promised. But, what about the transitional time—from this point in time until the second coming of Christ? Will any of us be subjected to unusual and harrowing experiences because of our own mistakes?

Know what Babylon is all about—false education, debt, credit, religious philosophy which appeals to the self (flesh and mind), pleasure, governmental concept, attitude regarding work and responsibility, and a host of other serious issues.

The object lesson: Keep yourselves as economically solvent and independent as you know how. Keep "the faith" and confidence strong. The reward cannot be too far removed.

Articles

This month the article regarding Christ's second coming is being sent. On the basis of the Fundamentals of Belief there remain two more to send. One on war and military service and one regarding church administration.

Much progress is being made on the large reference work regarding Israel and the church. Mr. Clark is well along in the process of inserting raw material into the computer. A large task, indeed.

New Interest

Several good contacts have been made with people in Belgium. We are so very grateful for all who return to the "faith once delivered." We can only thank God for His mercy and marvelous intervention. Please be praying for all these people. May God's will be wrought.

New and exciting contacts have been made in the Sacramento, California, area. In mid-July, Mr. Clark is scheduled to be in central California for the bimonthly Sabbath service. Once the contact has been made, we should have much more information to give to you all. To say the least, anyone who manifests a real, genuine love for the revealed Truth is an exciting individual.

Several new contacts, scattered around the country and the world, continue to pour into the office here in Eugene. Please be praying for all these people. All need and will greatly appreciate your loyal and continued concern.

Prayer Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

[Omitted for confidentiality]

General Requests

[Omitted for confidentiality]

Blessings of Brethren

To err is human. We overlooked this announcement last month. Our apologies to the young couple. Jon Brisby and Kim Chance were married at Franklin, Tennessee, on April 21, 1987. We hope for the very best as they create a new life together.

[Omitted for confidentiality]

A new Sabbath service area has been created. It is located in the western section of South Carolina. Location of services will vary from month to month. The monthly meeting will be held on the first Sabbath of each month. The time is 11 A.M. For information, please contact Mr. Keven McCammon; 210 Old Furnace RD; Inman, SC 29349; or phone (803) 578-0109. We pray for success and hope for rich and refreshing fellowship.

Feast of Tabernacles

Final instructions, if needed, will be given either in the August or September issue of this *Letter*. So far as we know, everything is going smoothly in the early planning for both sites: Townsend, Tennessee, and Newport, Oregon. If there is anything which we have overlooked, please send a note to us. We try to keep everything in mind, but the more diverse an operation becomes, the more difficult it is to remember all details.

Trips

Report on this year's Switzerland/France trip: All members are basically well—the exception being the problem of age. Sooner or later we all encounter the ravages of age. Our hearts go out to all who are experiencing the breakdown of the physical body.

The brethren of Europe extend their warmest greetings to all the members here in the States. It is pleasing to see how warm the regard is for all the body although most of you have not seen one another (European brethren and the States' members). Love is a key ingredient. Without genuine love, we cannot please God.

I spoke four times (two days) in Grenoble, France—including Pentecost. I spoke three times in Lausanne, Switzerland—including the one P.M. service on the Sabbath following our arrival at Geneva, Friday A.M., June 5, 1987.

For Myra and me, along with Mrs. Joyce Granberg this year, it was a very pleasant and inspiring two weeks and two days.

How greatly we love them all and do pray for their steady growth in the fruits of the Holy Spirit and the divine nature essential for inheritance of everlasting life.

Sabbath, July 11, Mr. and Mrs. Clark will be in Hawaii for the regular service. This will be a first for both Mr. and Mrs. Clark. On the return from Hawaii, Mr. Clark will stop at Sacramento, California, for the regularly scheduled bimonthly service—July 18, 1987. (At this point, I should mention that Mr. John Mitchell conducts a Sabbath service on alternate months—months on which neither Mr. Clark [nor myself] is present.)

Sabbath, August 8: I will be in Florida for the service. For this time I will fly into Tampa. During my stay there, I hope to develop a schedule whereby the location of the service can be altered among three Florida cities—Tampa, Lakeland, Ft. Meyers. Once the schedule is planned, we can then fly to the respective cities—or as close as possible. Arrangements may be made for this service by those in the Florida area.

Sabbath, August 15, I will be in the Austin, Texas, area for a service. Mr. John Byrd may make whatever arrangements are necessary for this service.

Sabbath, August 15, Mr. and Mrs. George Leeman will be in the Vancouver, B.C. (Canada) area. This will be a first for Mr. and Mrs. Leeman.

Sabbath, August 22: Messrs. Leeman and Mitchell will speak in Portland and Eugene. Who will speak where can be determined later.

The second ministerial conference for 1987 will be held August 20-23. It will be conducted here in Eugene. It is my hope to have Mr. Jean Aviolat present for one of the conferences next year. Would you all please pray about this need.

Office

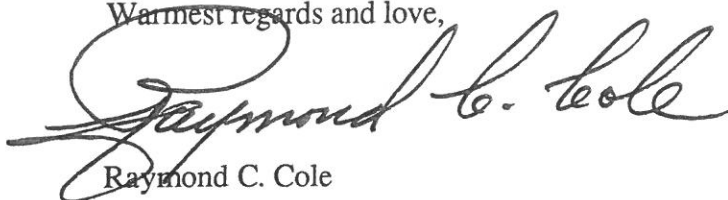
Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive consensus about third class mailing. As the details can be worked out, this program will be instituted. For a time or two there may be some slight disruption in the receipt of tapes. Please be patient; but do let us know what is happening. We cannot change what we do not know.

Comments

There is another area in which all of you can greatly help. When you desire to have something put into the *Announcement Letter*, please send a specific note requesting the inclusion of that data. We have so many things going on daily, it is very difficult for us to remember everything we are told verbally. We do not want to overlook anything which should be included. Thank you for your help.

Again, may we send along all our love and affection. It is a great pleasure to serve you—to be the instruments of service in these trying, troubling, and awe-inspiring last days.

Warmest regards and love,



Raymond C. Cole



Bryce G. Clark

P.S. Not an oversight, but a specific announcement:

To all those attending the F.O.T. at Townsend, TN

Walter and Rhea Stoudt are inviting you to join them for dinner and entertainment on Sunday night, October 11. To add a bit of color to the occasion, they are asking everyone to come dressed in a way that depicts their own local area. For further information, please contact Walter and Rhea Stoudt at 12330 Comstock; Spring Hill, FL 34609; phone number (904) 683-8617.

P.P.S. Mr. Albert Dilworth: He is having critical digestion problems, much vomiting. Please diligently pray for him.

Mrs. Dilworth asks that we send her sincere appreciation for all letters, cards, and telephone calls. These have been very greatly encouraging to her. In no way can she find sufficient time to send personal responses to them all. She hopes you will understand.